Industrially backward districts in Gujarat

2167. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any district, at present, in Gujarat which has been declared as industrially backward in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria fixed by Government to select industrially backward district; and

(d) the facilities being given to these districts, which have already been declared as industrially backward districts?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) There is no scheme with the Government of India, Ministry of Industry, at present under which a district is declared as industrially backward district in a State. Industrial development is the responsibility of the State Government and the Central Government only supports and supplements their efforts.

Wage policy for Labour in unorganised sector

2168. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to formulate a separate wage policy for Labour in unorganised sector i.e. Agricultural Labour, Brick-Kiln Labour and Labour engaged in small mines;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to formulate a major policy parameter under which major guidelines can be formulated for implementation;

(c) if answer to (a) and (b) above be in affirmative, the details thereof; and

(d) if answer to (a) and (b) above be in negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a), (b) and (d) No, Sir. Minimum wages for such workers are fixed by the appropriate Government in accordance with the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. There is no proposal before the Central Government for formulating any other separate wage policy for workers in the inorganised sector.

(c) Does not arise.

नए जनजातीय क्षेत्र घोषित किए जाने हेतु समिति

2169. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:**
श्री अलालुद्दीन अंसारी:

क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश में नए क्षेत्रों को जनजातीय क्षेत्र एवं कुछ समुदायों को अनुसूचित जनजाति घोषित करने के संबंध में राज्य सरकारों की सिफारिशों, आवेदन पत्रों और प्रस्तावों की जांच करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा गठित समिति ने अपना प्रतिवेदन सरकार के समक्ष प्रस्तुत कर दिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह प्रतिवेदन सरकार को कब प्राप्त हुआ था;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो यह प्रतिवेदन कब तक प्राप्त होने की संभावना है; और

(घ) इस समिति के विचाराधीन राज्य-वार विशेषकर हिमाचल प्रदेश के मामलों का ब्यौरा क्या है और वे कब से लम्बित पड़े हैं?

कल्याण मंत्री (श्री बलवंत सिंह रामूवालिया): (क) से (घ) अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सूची के संशोधन से संबंधित विभिन्न मामलों की जांच करने के लिए अक्तूबर, 1993 में एक सलाहकार समिति गठित की गई थी। इस समिति ने अपना कार्य पूरा नहीं किया तथा अब यह अस्तित्व में नहीं है। तथापि, आदिवासी क्षेत्रों के रूप में नए क्षेत्रों की घोषणा के लिए कोई समिति गठित नहीं की गई है।

Process patent and product patent applications

2170. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of process patent and product patent applications filed in India.

since Ist January 1995 as reported in The Times of India dated Ist July, 1996;

(b) how many of them have been filed by Indians and how many by foreigners;

(c) how many of the foreign applications are for food, drug and chemical items; and

(d) whether any product patents were given after the Ist January, 1995 Ordinance amending the patent law and before that ordinance lapsed?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The total number of process patent and product patent applications filed with Indian Patent Office during the period from Ist January, 1995 to 15th July, 1996 is as under:

Process		Product	
Indian	Foreign	Indian	Foreign
850	2427	1791	5966

(c) The position is as under:—

(i) Food —53
(ii) Drug —1115
(iii) Chemical items—2320

(d) As per provisions of the Patents Act, 1970, no product patents can be given for these items, as the same are not permitted.

Foreign Investment in Sugar Industry

2171. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) details of direct foreign investment/ investments for collaboration in industry;

(b) what investment has occurred in agricultural sector from foreign countries for collaboration and details of such investments in sugar industry;

(c) whether it is a fact that foreign investment in sugar industry is discouraged due to vested interests against the interest of farmers and their production; and

(d) if so, the reasons for low foreign investment in sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) During the period from 1.8.91 to 30.6.96, 4715 proposals for foreign direct investment were approved involving foreign direct investment of Rs. 71139.73 crores in different areas.

The details of such proposal including Agriculture Sector and Sugar Industry *viz.* name of Indian compnay, name and country of foreign collaborator, equity investment involved and item of manufacture/activity are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to the Monthly Newsletter and copies of these are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library

(c) and (d) No, Sir, there is no bar on foreign investment in the Sugar Industry within the Policy parameters. The choice of the sectors depends on the commercial judgement of the entrepreneurs.

लौह अयस्क खानों का अन्वेषण

2172. **श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरोला:** क्या खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने चालू वर्ष के दौरान देश के विभिन्न राज्यों में स्थित खानों में लौह अयस्क का अन्वेषण करने हेतु निविदाएं आमंत्रित की हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो राज्य-वार किन-किन पक्षों से निविदाएं प्राप्त हुई हैं; और

(ग) प्रत्येक राज्य में किन-किन पक्षों को उक्त ठेका दिया गया है?

इस्पात मंत्री और खान मंत्री (श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद बैश्य): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।